

Terms as defined by the Charitable Solicitations Act, 19.09 RCW

"Commercial fund-raiser" means any entity that for compensation or other consideration within this state directly or indirectly solicits or receives contributions for or on behalf of any charitable organization or charitable purpose, or that is engaged in the business of or is held out to persons in this state as independently engaged in the business of soliciting or receiving contributions for such purposes. However, a commercial coventurer, fund-raising counsel, or consultant, is not a commercial fund raiser or commercial fund-raising entity.

"Solicitation" means any oral or written request for a contribution. This includes the offer or attempt to sell any property, rights, services in connection with any appeal for a charitable purpose, where a charity's name is used as an inducement for completing the sale or any statement is made that implies that the whole or any part of the proceeds from the sale will be applied toward any charitable purpose or donated to any charity.

"Charitable purpose" is defined as any religious, charitable, scientific, testing for public safety, literary, or educational purpose or any other purpose that is beneficial to the community, including but not limited to recreational, environmental, humanitarian, patriotic, or civic purposes, the support of national or international amateur sports competition, the prevention of cruelty to children or animals, the advancement of social welfare, or the benefit of law enforcement personnel, fire fighters, and other persons who protect public safety. The term "charitable" is used in its generally accepted legal sense and includes relief of the poor, the distressed, or the underprivileged; advancement of religion; advancement of education or science; erecting or maintaining public buildings, monuments, or works; lessening the burdens of government; lessening neighborhood tensions; eliminating prejudice and discrimination; defending human and civil rights secured by law; and combating community deterioration and juvenile delinquency.

"General Public or Public" is defined as any individual or entity located in Washington State without a membership or other official relationship with a charitable organization before a solicitation by the charitable organization.